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GREECE TRUE TO HER
TRADITIONS.KING ALEXANDER ON THE
NATION'S DUTY.

In his Speech from the Throne, delivered in the Chamber of Deputies after he had taken the oath last month, King Alexander said:-

You know the events which brought about some months ago the division of the Hellenic State, but the benevolent solicitude of the Protecting Powers of Greece succeeded, without sacrifices, or an internal struggle, in reconstituting the national unity by the re-establishment of liberal institutions. The conditions upon which the transmission of the Royal power was effected have clearly shown the path to be followed in the future.

The Royal power resides in the love of the people, but foreign events did not permit the immediate convocation of the National Assembly, and that is why in order to inaugurate the new constitutional era which we are entering we have repealed the decree which by a violation of the Constitution dissolved the Chamber, and have convoked this Chamber for its regular second Session.

My Government, faithful to national tradition, has already given its foreign policy the orientation approved by the people at the elections of the 31st of May and ratified by the Chamber. After two glorious wars Greece desired peace, of which she had great need in order to retrieve her sacrifices and to regain her strength. Greece was therefore grieved to see a new war break out which would result in a general conflagration, setting against one another two worlds, two civilizations, and two opposed conceptions of nationalities and of humanity. Indeed, it would have been sufficient for little Greece to remember her traditions, her history, and her duty in order not to hesitate spontaneously to offer her feeble forces to that group in the conflict whose war aim was to defend the rights of nationalities and the liberty of peoples.

But more imperative obligations called Greece into the same camp, and she has therefore, now adopted an attitude which duty and honour imposed upon her to defend the brave and chivalrous Ally—the defence of the rights of Hellenism and the debt of gratitude contracted for her original liberation and for the protection which she has always enjoyed.

If it had been given to the entire nation to follow as soon as possible such a policy it would more rapidly and more effectively have assured the defence of the country against the hereditary enemy. Part of the Greek Army has, fortunately, had occasion to prove at the front its valour and moral. The heroism and self-sacrifice of the troops at the front are a most happy augury for the ultimate fate of the struggle undertaken by united Greece, for they are evidence of the fire pride and gallantry of the Hellenic Army. Faithful to this policy, my Government has already recalled the representatives of Greece from the capitals of the enemy countries. The first result of this policy has been the decision taken at the last Conference in Paris to re-establish in its integrity the sovereignty of the State by the abolition of all the controls recently imposed and by the evacuation of the Epirus and the other regions occupied by the Allies. Greece is justly proud to have found in this Conference the same consideration as her powerful protectors and Allies.

The speech then referred to the need to purify the judicial personnel, to rehabilitate the Church, and to the removal of officials who had contributed to the anarchy from which Greece had suffered. The police force would likewise be purged and the work of reform extended to all branches of the administration. A tax on war profits would be proposed. The speech concluded as follows:-

Greece has to defend her territory against barbarous aggressors. But if in the trials of the past Greece has been able, thanks to the civilizing strength and moral of the race, to overcome the conquerors and to rise free amidst the ruins, to-day it is quite a different matter. The present cataclysm will decide the definite fate of Hellenism, which, if lost, will never be restored. I am convinced that to accomplish the great and difficult task which the country has undertaken it will have the assistance equal to the danger of which you are aware. I am also certain that the self-sacrifice of the Hellenic people will rise to the heights demanded by the struggle to which we have been called by the supreme care of our national defence and for which I wish success by invoking the Divine assistance.—*Reuter.*

NETHERLANDS AND THE WAR.

In opening an extraordinary Session of the Dutch States-General Queen Wilhelmina said:-

If this year again passes without the conclusion of peace, so ardently desired by millions, manifold sacrifices will continue to be demanded of the Netherlands people. In view of the sacrifices which are also being made by other peoples in these times I am confident that those sacrifices will be made with good will. Although, thanks to the new taxes, the financial situation gives no ground for anxiety, a considerable strengthening of the finances is nevertheless unavoidable. I warmly thank the Army and Navy, which for so long have held themselves ready to defend our independence. I shall devote special care to the defence of our colonial territory.

Our relations with foreign Powers are favourable. There are many reasons for gratitude, but let us not forget that as long as the war is waged dangers threaten the country, and the people may again be called upon to use their utmost strength for their liberty and independence. "May God guard them" is my earnest prayer.

PROPHECY.

THE ART OF NOT EXPECTING TOO MUCH.

[BY THE RT. HON. G. W. Z. RUSSELL.]

"Among all forms of mistake, prophecy is the most gratuitous." So George Eliot warned us long ago; but this form of error I am now invited to commit, and the invitation is so courteously worded as almost to induce compliance. "I am anxious to obtain a symposium of opinions from the most eminent authorities of the day in reply to the question: 'What will England be like in 1930?' It would give me great pleasure to be able to include your name in the list which I am now collecting." To be numbered among "the most eminent authorities of the day" is a distinction to which I have no claim; yet the very suggestion is flattering, and I wish that Alastair could make an adequate response.

Amos of old time, "I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son"; but, unlike Amos, I have received no subsequent call to this perilous ministry. A prophet whose predictions have invariably miscarried cannot be reckoned among the "most eminent authorities" of his day.

When I have peered into the misty future, my vision has always failed. What I expected has never come to pass, and events which I thought impossible have arrived at the very moment when I was demonstrating their impossibility. When Queen Victoria's life was waning, I held that war was impossible as long as she lived and Lord Salisbury was her Minister; but I had reckoned without Lord Milner and Mr. Chamberlain. When we emerged successful from the inglorious strife of South Africa, I used to say "We had forgotten what war was like. Now that we have once again realized its horrors, we shall keep out of it for at least a generation."

CHASTISING REFLECTIONS. When pan-mongers rushed about, assuring us that, whether we liked it or not, we should be forced into war by the action of Germany, it was obvious to reply that no civilized, educated, and moral nation would ever again attempt to disturb the peace of Europe. And, when that prophecy, like all its predecessors, was falsified, and the solid fabric of civilization was shattered under our feet, the "most gratuitous" of our seductive "take" became more than ever seductive.

"No one," it has been justly said, "no one who has written about the war during the past three years, can turn back to his own writings without very humbling reflections about his own fallibility. The days when our prophets used to write about 'the Steam-Roller' and 'Non-Stop to Berlin' seem very remote, and we are all more chastened, more cautious, less disposed to prophecy." For my own part, long experience of my fallibility has restrained me from any very confident predictions; but I will confess two or three beliefs which have been quite signally falsified by the event. I had believed profoundly in Russia. The immense portion of the world's face which she occupies; her vast and manifold wealth; the simple patriotism which characterized her people; and her tenacious devotion to historic Christianity—all these things seemed to mark her out as the irresistible champion of peace and freedom and order, against the aggression of a military despotism which had palpably renounced both faith and morality. And to-day, but there is no need to complete the sentence, and, indeed, it cannot be completed, for the end is not yet.

Again, I believed in Greece. I knew the imperishable debt which Europe owes to her, in literature, in art, in politics, in religion. I knew the heroic sacrifices which Englishmen had made in the past in order to secure her freedom and independence; and I believed that the throne of a Greek King who was not heart and soul with the Allies would totter and go down before the blast of popular displeasure. And to-day—

Yet once more, I believed in America, and believed in her with a difference. I believed in her because she had secured her national unity by a splendid fight for humanity and freedom. I believed in her Constitution as the most ingenious product of political handicraft that the world has ever seen; and I believed that, abiding in the tradition of those who first led her out of European bondage, she would stand fast in her unassailable strength, unless her own shores were violated and her own proud flag defied. And to-day—but here the sentence may be completed, and completed with the thankful acknowledgment that, whereas the frustration of some other prophecies has dashed our hopes and chilled our hearts, this frustration has given us new life.

But shall we, after all these miscarriages of prediction, go on prophesying, even though we are hailed as "the most eminent authorities of the day"? I think not; and when we are asked to say what England will be like in 1930, we had better, before we attempt to reply, take counsel with Froude. "One lesson of history is that we should draw no horoscopes; that we should expect little, for what we expect will not come to pass. Revolutions, Reformations—those vast movements into which heroes and saints have flung themselves, in the belief that they were the dawn of the Millennium—have not borne the fruit which they looked for. Millenniums are all far away. These great convulsions leave the world changed, perhaps improved—but not improved as the actors in them hoped it would be. The most reasonable anticipations fail us—antecedents the most apposite, misled us; because the conditions of human problems never repeat themselves. Some new feature alters everything—some element which we detect only in its after-operation."

WHAT THE PROPHETS SAID. This is profoundly true, and one signal illustration of it is not twenty years old. When we made our attack on the Boer Republics, all our official prophets prophesied Millenniums. Military prophets and journalistic prophets predicted an

(Continued at foot of next column.)

THE SUNKEN ROAD.

There is not a soldier in France to whom a sunken road is not a cause of dread and hatred. They know only too well that every inch of it is registered by the Hun artillery. Grim, rugged, shell-torn, these pathways of death intersect our lines at many points, and hold the secret of countless ghastly carnages.

A long file of men moved in silence along the duckboards, a narrow wooden footway which wound snake-like into the darkness. An occasional sixty-pounder blew its hot breath across the column, and spat a vivid flame that cut the black night.

Each man carried a heavy burden—his rifle, equipment, two spare sand-bags, rations tied up in an extra sand bag, his parcel from home, a pick or a shovel. Some carried petrol tins containing water; some a jar of rum. Pockets and stretchers were distributed through the party. They took great care to prevent themselves from falling on the slippery footway. They were as different from the spry and span soldier of the parade ground as night is from day.

In the darkness in front of them the countless flash-lights weaved fantastic patterns.

The duck-boards, perched perilously round the edges of yawning shell-holes, abruptly stopped, and gave way to a rough track beaten by myriads of feet which made procession along it.

They had barely gone a hundred yards when there came a distant sound of detonations. Shells screamed towards them and burst with an ear-splitting crash, and vomited clouds of coal-black smoke which screamed high against the stars. Someone screamed; someone groaned; but the party moved stoically forward; only the stretcher-bearers fell out.

They reached the sunken road at last, and, with steel helmets glistening in the light of flares, the long line followed the sinister trail which led to the trenches. Anyone unaccustomed to the battle-field of France would not have known it as a road. Every inch of it had been blasted and ploughed by shell fire; barbed wire lay in torn profusion; jagged stumps like fingers pointing to heaven, were all huddled on either side.

Swearing softly, panting with the weight of their burdens, the party struggled on, and on, and on.

The way seemed very long; but all ways would seem long under that aching weight and by that ploughed and broken road. And yet there was still no sign of the newly captured position which they had come up to consolidate.

The men trudged stolidly forward. It made no difference to them where they were going. If you had said "Berlin" they would have answered "Chenno" and stepped out a little more briskly. If you had said "Hell," they would have laughed and answered that they had been there once or twice before, and they were not likely to find anything in it to surprise them.

But the officer grew uneasy. There was still no sign in the darkness of the new trenches, and he knew that, with the comparatively open fighting there had been lately, it was possible for new-comers to miss the way. He whispered "halt" and, as the men stopped, shifting and easing their burdens, he slipped ahead by himself to reconnoitre. Then something seemed to rise out of the ground in the darkness before him. He threw out his hand, touched the thing, and as he drew his hand sharply away felt the flesh tear. It was barbed wire, intact, as though freshly erected. He moved again, a tin rattled and a challenge rang out—a challenge in a strange tongue.

"Good God," he muttered, "we are right up to the Hun line." It would have been easy to have lain there for a little and then crawled away, but any moment a flare might go up and show that waiting company in the sunken road; and then—

He rose and sprang back from shell hole to shell hole. A shot came, fired at hazard, but it cut the cloth of his breeches and grazed and scorched his skin.

"Wrong road," he said laconically as he reached the waiting party. "We can't get to the position from here. Sorry, men. About turn."

They turned and stumbled back across the shell holes. The officer kept in the rear of the column. He had that feeling as of something very close behind him, that might at any moment touch his neck. Then a message came down—"Pass the word to the Captain that the guide is here." At that the Captain moved up, as quickly as he could, to the head of the column.

"See what it was that the Captain came up against?" said the first man to his neighbour.

"No," said the other, "how could I?" "I saw when that flare went across and you were pulling at your puttee. It was wire. Must have been the German front-line, and precious near too."

"Well, what about it?" said the other indifferently. "It's what we're always bound for, ain't it?"

Half-way up the column the Captain wiped the sweat from his face.

instant and a glorious victory; and when that was delayed by the inexplicable obstinacy of a small people fighting for freedom, our "eminent authorities" had changed their note. Politicians, who had forgotten their Liberalism, blustered about Empire, subjugation, and annexation. Ministers of religion, who had forgotten their Christianity, preached the blessedness of blood-shed. Even the Episcopal President of the Christian Social Union poured out the doings in South Africa "an oil of unclean consecration." All alike joined in a chorus of rapturous prediction, and we were assured that England would emerge from the conflict purged by fire, a purer, manlier, and more Christian nation.

That was the prophecy—the event was ten years of a moral decadence such as England had not known since the days of the Regency. Let us remember what Froude said about "Horoscopes," and resist all temptation to Prophecy.—*Daily News.*

SPECULATION IN YARN.

GAMBLERS BADLY HIT.

While Governments are successfully controlling commodities of all sorts, a group of speculators, most of whom have headquarters in Osaka, decided to do some controlling on their own account, but they have discovered that control by Governments and control by individuals are two different things (says the N. C. Daily News). Their losses are said to be in the vicinity of Yen 40,000,000 in Japan and a million or so tons have been lost in extending the operations to Shanghai.

It was cotton yarn that they sought to control, and apparently they had in mind nothing short of a monopoly of the yarn supply of the whole Far East. They began some months ago by buying yarn, all they could get, in India, in Japan, and even locally. The market was pushed up to unheard of prices, transactions having been done on the Osaka Bazaar up to Yen 520, that figure having been reached in leaps of Yen 30 to even Yen 50 daily at one time. There was imminent danger that the roof would be forced so high above the supports that it would float away in the atmosphere, so in July Sam-pin closed its doors, from a Saturday to Tuesday in order to strengthen the structure which was in danger of losing its roof.

After the three days' holiday yarn opened at Yen 480, and then the deflating process began, prices falling almost as rapidly as they had advanced, from Yen 480 to under Yen 300; then there was an up-and-down movement, mostly down, until Yen 250 and less was reached. Shanghai-spun yarns, too, were pushed up at the same time, but not to the parity of Osaka. Agents of the world-wide yarn controllers in Osaka bought here at prices so high as Tls. 225; now they are selling out at Tls. 125 or thereabouts with the result that the yarn market is lifeless.

The Japanese and Chinese speculators who forced the market up and bought at their own prices found conditions against them. Elements like floods and exchange interfered with their calculations and where they expected to sell at a profit they found no buyers. The difference between Tls. 150-160 (average top price) and Tls. 125, multiplied by many thousands of bales, represents losses that can be calculated in seven figures, and the yarn speculators are not a particularly happy people.

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. F. C. JENKIN,
D.S.P. (RESERVE).

SERVICE BOARD.

All units will attend before this Board at Headquarters Club at any time between 5 and 6 p.m. on the duties mentioned. Members may attend in uniform, but must produce Armlets. Men on patrol duty must attend the Board at its next sitting after the date of their patrol. Medical Exempts and men on leave (if in the Colony) must attend. Company, Platoon, and Section Commanders will attend in uniform with their respective Units.

Monday, Sept. 24th—No. 3 Platoon.
Tuesday, Sept. 25th—No. 4 Platoon.
Wednesday, Sept. 26th—No. 1 Platoon.
Thursday, Sept. 27th—No. 2 Platoon.
Friday, Sept. 28th—Mounted Police, Biglers and Drummers and Maxim Gunners.
Monday, Oct. 1st—No. 7 Platoon.
Tuesday, Oct. 2nd—No. 8 Platoon.
Wednesday, Oct. 3rd—Ambulance.
Thursday, Oct. 4th—No. 5 Platoon.
Friday, Oct. 5th—No. 6 Platoon.
Monday, Oct. 8th—Band and Orchestra.
Tuesday, Oct. 9th—Staff and Company Commander.

NO. 2 SECTION.

For information, the following Officers perform the following duties:—
Staff Inspector Fothergill—Police School and Emergency Calls.
Co-Sergt. Major Wilks—Warning Officer for Land and Water Police.
Crown-Sergt. Goodwin—Section Commander.

D.S.P.'S SECRETARY.

Mrs. Gerrard is appointed Secretary to the D.S.P. (R.) as from September, 1917.

By Order.

T. F. HUGHES, A.S.P. (R.).
September 18th, 1917.

BRITISH ARMY'S SUPERIORITY.

If we keep our eyes fixed on trench lines and accept the German formula that every engagement is a German victory which does not result in the piercing of the German lines and the rupture of the German front, which does not result in a general retreat, we shall totally misunderstand what has taken place on the British front and soon, day will be bewildered by what does take place (says Frank H. Simonds in an article to the *Sun-Francisco Chronicle*). The British army has demonstrated its superiority in all respects over the German. The extent of this superiority has not yet led to a Leipzig, to Sedan, or to Waterloo, but it has led to German defeats more destructive of German confidence in the ranks than any Napoleonic failure before Leipzig. The invincibility of the German army has been demonstrated to be a legend by the new army of Great Britain and her Dominions in one short year, and I believe firmly that if the war continues with unchanged conditions on the western front for another year we shall see a German disaster comparable with that of Lee when he endeavoured to hold too long to his trenches near Richmond. If the Germans again retreat to escape such a disaster, the meaning will still be inescapable.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A THANK-OFFERING TO "G.J."

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Myself and my sisters we thank thee,
We of the classical nine—
Calliope, likewise Euterpe,
We dwellers in Wanchai's fair clime.

Melpomene's feeling quite "skittish,"
Thalia's dispensed with her staff,
Urania's "globe" was her "fetish,"
But she broke it when you made her laugh.

Fair Clío has thrown down her "trea-
sure,"
While Erato the marriage feast's banned;
But Terpsichore's dancing a measure
With Polymnia holding her hand.

On the Peak mighty Jove, "the Com-
peller,"
In his zest has forgot how to nod:
"G.J.," you're a wonderful "feller,"
Since that Tempean vale you have trod.

CALLIOPE.

SPORT.

WATER POLO.

88th COY. R.G.A. v. 89th COY. R.G.A.

These teams met at the V.R.C. yesterday afternoon in the re-play for the 'Royal Artillery Polo Cup,' their last meeting having resulted in a draw of two goals each. The 88th Company obtained the only point in the first half, the goal being registered by Harrison, who played a fine game throughout. In the second half Long equalised, and both sides struggled in vain to gain a lead before time arrived. It was agreed to play extra time. Watson, who had been well looked after, managed to get through, and gave the victory to the men from Mount Davis, who thus became winners of the R. A. Cup, taking it from the 87th Company, who have held it for some considerable time. Mr. Mitchell made an excellent referee.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

CRUELTY TO A SPARROW.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin charged his office cooly with cruelty to a sparrow.
Mr. Jenkin stated that he saw the defendant attach a sparrow, by its legs, to a piece of string. The sparrow was then lowered over the verandah, and when it attempted to fly away, it was jerked back. The operation was repeated several times before he apprehended the cooly.
A fine of \$10 was imposed.

OPIUM IN "STAG" HOTEL.

Three Chinese were charged with being in unlawful possession of 184 taels of opium.
Inspector Wildin said that on the previous day he went to the Stag Hotel, and instituted a search in an upstairs room. The three defendants were in the room, and eventually witness found a trunk which, when opened, was found to be lined with raw opium.
The case was adjourned.

ALIEN ENEMIES.

A Chinese chauffeur was charged by another Chinese with driving negligently in Queen's Road, as a result of which a dog belonging to the complainant was killed.

The complainant said that the dead dog was one of two dashbunds which he had purchased for \$150 the pair. The defendant was driving his car at a high speed along Queen's Road, and the dog had no chance to get out of the way. It got under the car, and, when picked up, was dead.

The defendant stated that the deceased animal of enemy origin was fighting with another dog—presumably British—and they would not get out of the way. He sounded his horn, but the dashbund dashed into the car and was run over.
The case was adjourned.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 15th September is as follows:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate receipts for 37 weeks.
This Year	\$13,118	\$499,575
Last Year	16,525	541,239
Decrease	2,707	41,664

The C.N.S. *Shantung*, which left Hongkong on the 6th instant and arrived at Shanghai on the 11th inst., met with a strong northerly gale on the 8th and 9th instant. On the morning of the 9th inst. she rescued the crew (11 men) of a fishing junk.

PEKING NOTES.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PEKING, 8th September.

PRESIDENT AND PREMIER.

It is almost inevitable that we should hear from sources not altogether disinterested that differences exist between the President and the Premier, the suggestion, of course, being that an open rupture is unavoidable and will lead in due course to the disintegration of the present Administration. The report that the Chief Executive and the Prime Minister are not agreed upon the policy to be followed immediately makes one think that "the wish is father to the thought." In all essentials there is complete harmony between the Cabinet and the President. To be strictly accurate, it must be conceded that Feng Kow-chang, who had first on coming to Peking agreed with Tuan Chi-jui upon the unwisdom of re-convening Parliament and of the expediency of calling in its stead a National Council, has, perhaps, shown an inclination to listen to the clamorous voices from the South which have been loudly demanding the re-assembling of Parliament. How far he was swayed by these utterances is not, of course, known, but it may be taken for granted that he indulged in the hope of being able to compromise with the South. The fact that it is now definitely asserted that the National Council will be summoned as an indication that any Presidential hankering for a compromise with Sun Yat-sen and Company have been suppressed.

All the circumstances, therefore, point to the growing consolidation of the Administration. The situation in Canton, although by no means clear, has undoubtedly taken a turn for the better, judged by the measure of support which the Central Government may expect to have in that disturbed area. Conflicting reports come to hand as to the conditions on the Yunnan-Szechuan border. One day we are told that the Yunnanese have treacherously violated the armistice and are marching on Chengtu; the next day we are told that the report is untrue. Similarly we learn that Hunan has declared independence, and to-day we hear that the situation there is so very much improved that Fu Liang-tso, the new Tsuchun, whose appointment the provincial military disapproved, has now gone from Wuchang, in which city he has been waiting developments, to Changsha, thus proving that Hunan will not display any weak sympathy for the Southerners. Fu Liang-tso, who was formerly Vice-Minister for War when Tuan Chi-jui was holding the two portfolios of Premier and Minister for War, is one of the Premier's strong men, and his selection is now regarded as having been justified by the events just related.

There has been much fierce discussion regarding the chartering of enemy ships by the Chinese Government to the Ta Ta Company, of which the well-known Chang Chien, the former director of the National Conservancy Bureau, is the head. It has been suggested that the company is a bogus one, formed simply to secure this contract and sub-lease it to Japanese. As I understand it, the facts are these: The Ta Ta Company has certain Japanese associations and these are drawn upon in respect of certain financial and other assistance necessary to the putting of the ships into working condition. The name of the Mitsu Bishi is mentioned in this connection, and perhaps quite correctly. In what proportion the ships, if any, will be sub-leased to Allied shippers has yet to be seen. The Peking Gazette's issue of yesterday practically charges the Minister of Communications with "graft," and suggests that the deal is just as crooked as the locomotive scandal in which his predecessor was concerned some eight months ago.

More than usual interest has been attached this week to the deliberations of the diplomatic body, for it was known that it was considering what are described as concessions to China. In the first place the Ministers have agreed in principle to the raising of the Customs Tariff to an effective 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, and they have appointed a commission to consider the many complications and details of its application. In the second place, they have also agreed to the remission for five years of the Boxer Indemnity, the only exception being Russia, who has consented to the postponement of only ten-twenty-sixths of the seven million dollars payable annually. In the third place, the restrictions imposed by the Protocol of 1901 are (Continued at foot of next column.)

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, September 18th.

THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

It is reported from an official source that Li Hoi Sin, the former Civil Governor of Canton, has been sent by the Peking Government to ask General Luk Wing-ting to acknowledge their authority and follow their declaration of war with Germany and Austria. Li will come to Canton to consult with the Tsuchun after he has seen the General.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen is also anxious to see Li at an early date to discuss the situation. Sun, it is said, will be willing to abolish the Provisional Government if his demands are granted. Two gunboats have been ordered to guard the Cement Works after the Generalissimo Sun Yat-sen has moved in. Sun Yat-sen has decided to have his office in the Cement Works, owing to the Tsuchun's refusal to have such office in the city.

THE EXPEDITION TO HUNAN.

General Luk Wing-ting has directed that the troops sent to Hunan from Kwangtung shall be commanded by Chan Ping-kwan, and the troops from Kwangsi by Luk Yu-kwong (his son). These troops will meet at a given point before reaching Hunan, in order to arrange the plan of campaign. Luk will appoint one of these two commanders to be the Chief.

The Kwangsi troops have been ordered to double their march to Wing-chow, in consequence of General Luk having received reports that the Northern troops have arrived at Wing-hung, on the border of Hunan.

The sum of \$300,000 yielded by the Salt tax has been remitted to Kwangsi, at General Luk's demand, for military expenses.

The Tsuchun has received a telegram from General Luk stating that the expeditionary force is divided into three divisions. The 1st division is commanded by Luk Yu-kwong, the 2nd by Wai Wai-chang, the 3rd by Lam Chun-ting. There are machine-gun and artillery corps in each division.

AMERICAN MISSIONARIES SEEK PROTECTION.
Four American missionaries visited the Tsuchun yesterday, to ask for greater protection for American chapels. The Tsuchun granted the request.

to the movement of Chinese troops within a certain radius of Tientsin have been relaxed. These do not represent very much in the way of "concessions," but at any rate they may be taken as an earnest of favours to come.

FINANCIAL.

China's chronic impecuniosity has been relieved a little this week. The two million taels from the Customs, which have been lying in the bank for some time owing to the objections to their being paid over to the Chinese Government, have now been released, and a surplus of three million, eight hundred thousand dollars from the Salt Administration has also been paid into the National Exchequer, while the first portion of the ten million yen advance from the Yokohama Specie Bank has been received. The wisdom of borrowing ten million yen, which only produces between five and six million dollars, is being questioned by the local Press, which suggests that the Government might do as well by borrowing the money from the Bank of China or the Bank of Communications at the depreciated value of their notes.

PERSONAL.

Sir John Jordan, who is travelling *via* America, is expected here about the end of the month, having had nearly eleven months' holiday from Peking. He will remain till the end of the war.

Mr. Conty, the French Minister, who has been recalled by his Government, will leave for France on the 11th inst. During the last few days he has attended many farewell gatherings given in his honour. His successor is not known yet, but M. Lefevre-Pontalis, Minister to Siam, is mentioned in this connection.

In the absence of Mr. Conty, H.E. the Portuguese Minister will be the *doyen* of the diplomatic body until the return of the British Minister.

Mr. Grave, the popular First Secretary of the Russian Legation, has returned to Peking, bringing with him his mother and sister from Russia.

GAMBLING IN ROUBLES.

In Peking and, indeed, in North China there has been since the beginning of the war much speculation in roubles. Vast stocks are held in Peking and in Tientsin. Many bought when the rouble was standing at ninety, many bought when it was at sixty, but all of them are feeling very unhappy at the enormous drop which has taken place since the military collapse last month. To-day one hundred roubles can be bought for seventeen dollars.

"SERVICES' ENTERTAINMENT FUND."

The following subscriptions to the above fund have been received by the Treasurer during the week ending Sept. 15th and are gratefully acknowledged:

Brought forward	\$2,169.50
"G. E. S."	10.00
F. C. Butcher	5.00
"Anon."	24.85
Donnelly & Whyte	10.00
A. and F. M.	20.00
B. E. Bollios	5.00
E. Ex. Telegraph Co.	20.00
European Staff	10.00
A. H. Skelton	10.00
R. S.	25.00
R. M. Dyer	10.00
W. L. Loask	10.00
W. S. Brown	5.00
R. Hancock	5.00
W. M. Humphreys	5.00
H. P. White	10.00

Total carried forward .. \$2,344.33

Monthly subscription.

Donation:

T. Robinson

(General Secretary):

F. G. B. Hastings, R. N.

(Naval Secretary):

C. I. Cooper-Hunt, C.F.

(Military Sec. and Treasurer).

WHY JAPAN STOPS SILVER EXPORTS.

AVERTING FINANCIAL UPHEAVAL.

As briefly reported by telegraph at the time, the Japanese Government, on September 8th announced the prohibition of the export, without the permission of the Finance Minister, of silver coins or silver bullion except in the case of travellers going abroad, who may take with them not more than Yen 50 in silver coins. At the same time, the boarding, smelting, or defacing of silver coins for the purpose of selling or otherwise disposing of them will be also prohibited. In both cases offenders are liable to be punished with imprisonment not exceeding three months or with a fine of not more than Yen 100.

In this connection the authorities have issued an explanation of the reasons necessitating the embargo on silver. The official explanation, taken from the *Japan Chronicle*, says:—

"Since October, 1915, the value of silver has gradually advanced, and the advance has recently become more rapid. On September 3rd, London quotations reached 47d. Present conditions are such that it is well nigh impossible to predict how far the price of silver will still advance. There may be various reasons responsible for the advance, but the main causes are an increased demand and a reduced supply. Since the outbreak of the war, currency in Europe and America has undergone a considerable inflation, making it necessary to put more auxiliary coins into circulation. In India and China there has also been an increased demand for silver, while the output of producing centres has suffered a falling off. Added to this is the fact that some countries have already prohibited the export of silver. There is thus every indication that the price of silver is bound to go up still further.

"As a result of the steady advance in the price of silver, the intrinsic or bullion value of our silver coins has become more than their nominal value as currency. If the present state of things continues, it is possible that some people may melt silver coins for the purpose of selling or otherwise using the silver as bullion, or export them as they are to foreign countries. The result would be a great shortage of silver auxiliary coins, which might give rise to serious financial disturbances. This is the reason why an embargo has now been placed on the export of silver coins.

"Even as late as 1915 the output of silver in this country amounted to no more than Yen 7,200,000 in value. While it has become very difficult to import silver from abroad, there is an increased demand for the metal on account of the necessity of a larger silver currency. Hence the necessity for the prohibition of the export of silver bullion. In special cases, however, the Finance Minister may permit the export."

There is reason to believe that for some time certain people have been engaged in collecting and smelting Japanese silver coins, adds the *Kobe Journal*. "Our readers are perhaps aware that there are larger issues of 10sen, 20sen, and 50sen pieces, though their number has greatly decreased of late, owing, it may hardly be necessary to point out, to the increased price of silver. According to an expert calculation, the price of silver necessary to make the denominations of these large-size coins the same as their actual value as silver is 32.79d., while it is 43.86d. in the case of the smaller size of coins or those now more generally in circulation. It is clear that it pays to sell large and small coins as bullion. This makes the embargo all the more necessary."

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

News has been received (says the *N.Y. Daily News*) that Mr. "Jack" MacGregor, manager of Messrs. Caldebeck, MacGregor & Co. in London, who has been in the Royal Naval Air Service, Anti-Aircraft, since October, 1914, has been transferred to the R.G.A. Cadet School at Trowbridge, Wiltshire, and hopes to be appointed to a battery in about three months' time. Mr. MacGregor, it will be remembered, lived in Shanghai from 1908 to 1910.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.



THE "PALL MALL" WHISKY.

11 YEARS OLD.

\$30 per case.

NAPIER JOHNSTONE'S WHISKY.

"OLD SQUARE"

UNVARIED FOR 150 YEARS.

\$28 per case.

WHITE HORSE CELLAR WHISKY.

Island of Islay and Glenlivet.

\$26 per case.

CLAN MACKENZIE WHISKY.

OLD MATURED.

\$26 per case.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.'S

**** BRANDY.

BOTTLED IN FRANCE.

\$38 per case.

A.V.C. FINEST OLD LIQUEUR BRANDY.

GUARANTEED 30 YEARS OLD.

V. D. CLARETS. V. D. SAUTERNES. V. D. BURGUNDIES.

Stocked by HONGKONG HOTEL.

Obtainable at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

A. & B. MACKAY'S LIQUEUR WHISKY.

THE ORIGINAL LIQUEUR WHISKY.

PRICE \$24.00 PER CASE DUTY PAID.

Has a fine mild flavour and a refreshing clean taste.

Obtainable at all Local Stores.

and at LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

[487-2]

Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE



THE FINEST FOOTWEAR FOR LADIES.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

FOR SALE.

"GALESEND," 108, THE PEAK.

Apply to—

C. H. GALE,
P. W. Dept.
[1034]

KOWLOON CRICKET CLUB.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Members of the above Club will be held in the Club House, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th inst., at 5.30 P.M.

S. E. GREEN,
Hon. Secretary.
[1035]

HONGKONG ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Society will be held in the CITY HALL, on WEDNESDAY, 26th September, 1917, at 5.30 P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st August; of electing office-bearers for the ensuing year, &c.

R. BENDERSON,
Secretary.
[1036]

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

PROMENADE CONCERT SEASON, 1917.

The 1st Concert will be held in the BOTANICAL GARDENS, on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, at 9 P.M.

Vocalists:

Mrs. C. W. BROWNE, Miss CAMILLE CASTRO, Mr. C. H. P. HAY, Mr. A. H. LAY, POLICE RESERVE ORCHESTRA. Band of the 74th Punjab (By kind permission).

Admission (at Main Entrance only): 30 cents and 50 cents (including right to reserved but unnumbered chairs). Naval and Military Forces in Uniform 10 cents. Children charged Adult prices. Gate opens at 8.30 P.M. [1050]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the Company's Offices on SATURDAY, the 29th of September, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, together with a Statement of Accounts to 30th June 1917. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 21st to 28th September, both days inclusive. DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 8th September, 1917. [1000]

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that DIVIDEND WARRANTS for the INTERIM DIVIDEND of \$1.50 per Share payable to all Shareholders on the Company's Register at 30th September, 1917, may be obtained at the office of the Company, 2, Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, on and after the 8th October, 1917. Notice is further given that the SHARE REGISTER and TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 1st to the 6th October, 1917, both days inclusive. By Order of the Board of Directors, R. M. DYER, Chief Manager. Hongkong, 8th September, 1917. [1012]

NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION).

(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND).

Unredeemed Bank Notes.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any OUTSTANDING NOTES will be paid on presentation to the undersigned on or before SATURDAY, 29th September, 1917, at Noon.

AFTER THAT DATE, holders will find it necessary to claim repayment of the notes from the BOARD OF TRADE, LONDON, to whom the necessary funds will be remitted. THE BOARD OF TRADE make a charge for payment of claims out of monies deposited in the "COMPANIES LIQUIDATION ACCOUNT" at the Bank of England. A. R. LOWE, Liquidator.

Chartered Bank Building, Hongkong, 16th August, 1917. [1056]

WANTED—IMMEDIATELY.

BY AN ENGLISH LADY in Yunnan China, an Eurasian or Portuguese Companion. Good home. Knowledge of French desirable. Please apply stating salary required, age and full particulars to—

Box 17, Care of "Daily Press" Office. [1041]

TO LET.

NO. 28, BELLIOS TERRACE.

No. 4, DES VŒUX VILLAS, No. 53, PEAK. No. 2, FAIRVIEW, No. 3, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

A LARGE ROOM suitable for Office in Queen's Building (corner of Connaught Road and Ice House Street).

ONE GODOWN in Treadell Street, FOR SALE. "GLENSHIEL," No. 140 and 141, THE PEAK.

Apply to—

LINSTEAD & DAVIS, 3rd Floor, Alexandra Buildings. [1030]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SHOPS, situated in Ice House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
45, Connaught Road Central. [900]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

HOUSES in Broadwood and Moreton Terraces.

HOUSES on Shamshu, Canton.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD. [928]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings. [941]

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer "HYSON"

are hereby notified that the Cargo will be discharged into Holt's Wharf, Kowloon, where it will lie at Consignee's risk. The Cargo will be ready for delivery from Godown on and after 17th September.

Optional cargo will be landed, unless notice has been given prior to steamer's arrival.

All broken, chafed, and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on any Tuesdays and Fridays between the hours of 10.45 A.M. and Noon within the free storage period.

No claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the steamer's Godown, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 24th September will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 8th October, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 16th September, 1917. [1044]

JOINT SERVICE

OF THE "ROTTERDAM LLOYD" ROYAL MAIL LINES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship "PRINCESS JULIANA"

having arrived from SAN FRANCISCO, Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 21st Sept., at Noon, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Undersigned on or before the 26th Sept., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 22nd Sept., at 10 A.M., by the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN L.L.N.

Hongkong, 16th September, 1917. [1045]

KONINKLYKE PAKETVAART MAATSCHAPPY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM BELAWAN, DELI, SINGAPORE AND PENANG.

THE Steamship "JACOB"

having arrived from the above port, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by 24th inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined by Messrs. Goddard and Douglas on the 22nd inst. at 10 A.M.

Claims against the steamer must be presented in writing within 10 days after arrival of steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by the undersigned in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JAYA-CHINA-JAPAN L.L.N. Agents. Hongkong, 17th September, 1917. [1053]

INTIMATION

WATSON'S RESORCIN HAIR LOTION

COPY OF ORDER RECENTLY RECEIVED.

"Eldoret,

British East Africa,

4th July, 1917.

Dear Sirs,—I would be very much obliged if you would kindly send me by parcels post some of your Resorcin Hair Lotion (oily).

In payment please find enclosed

Postal Orders for £2, which I hope

you will be able to change into

local currency.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) M.—M.—D.—

SOLD ONLY BY

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

TELEPHONE 16

[12]

MARRIAGE.

HUTCHISON-SHEARER.—At the North U. F. Church, Renfrew, on August 2nd, Lt. THOMAS (TOMMY) HUTCHISON, of Shanghai, of the Oxford and Buckinghamshire L. I. to MISS, eldest daughter of the late Mr. ARCHIBALD SHEARER, of Shanghai and Hankow, and of Mrs. Shearer, Meadowflat, Renfrew.

DEATH.

SHARPLES.—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on September 11th, ERNEST WILLIAM SHARPLES, aged 47 years.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1917.

TRADE AS A WEAPON.

ALTHOUGH there is still much obscurity about the details of the economic policy of the Allies after the war, it is certain that efforts will be made to establish some definite working agreement which will assist in the task of reconstruction. A recent cable announced that trade barriers between Great Britain and France have been swept aside. That may be regarded as the first practical step in the direction of the new trade policy, and we may expect to see it followed by others. In thus waiving her tariffs, France has departed from her established policy of protection, and, unless the concession is to be of merely temporary duration rendered necessary by the exigencies of the war, it would appear to call for some form of reciprocity, affecting Great Britain's attitude towards neutral countries and towards the Central European Powers.

There is more sentiment in business than is generally admitted, and the war is increasing it. The instinct of the European residents of Hongkong when they demanded the exclusion of all Germans from the Colony for a term of years after the war was a natural one. Whatever statesmen may do or may leave undone in connection with economic treaties, the lot of the German seems destined to be a hard one in the Colonies of the Allies, for it will be a long time before the ghastly tale of atrocities committed by the Germans is obliterated from the memory

German intrigue and German brutality will live in the imagination of the most unemotional people, and the authors will find that retribution will overtake them as surely as night follows day. Fear of this future is evidently haunting the new German Chancellor. The outstanding feature of that portion of his recent speech which related to peace was a thinly-veiled concern that "the league in arms of our opponents" would, in the days of peace, become "an economic offensive alliance against us." There can be no doubt that this fear, which afflicts the minds of German statesmen and capitalists, is justified. Any discussion of a League of Nations to prevent war is futile unless some weapon is to be placed in the hands of such a League. If the idea ever materialises—and we earnestly hope that it will—then evil-doers amongst nations will be made to suffer the penalty of their misdeeds. The swiftest and most effective form of punishment will be the economic blockade. In the Far East the Chinese have shown us what a powerful weapon a trade boycott may become. There is no nation on earth with a keener desire to extend their opportunities for making money; indeed, some critics aver that the Chinese have no patriotism and that each places his own interests before those of his country. Nevertheless, they have not hesitated to adopt a policy which they knew must entail loss and inconvenience to themselves when they considered some other nation guilty of imposing upon their military weakness. We believe the majority of patriotic Britons will be equally averse from resuming business relations with the Germans for many years after the guns in France and Flanders have done their work.

The new arrangement with France reminds us, however, that there is a brighter side of this question. If we have learned to hate the Germans, we have learned also to admire more and more the Allies with whom we are united in fighting the battle of freedom. It is impossible to express the feelings of our own countrymen towards France. That nation, which even the most friendly critic before the war was apt to regard as somewhat volatile, has been weighed in the balance and has not been found wanting. We yield to none in our admiration of the self-sacrifice of our own fellow countrymen, but the determination of the French in the face of the enemy and the heroism with which the nation has borne its heavy sufferings is the epic of the war. No-one of the present generation in the British Empire can ever forget what France has done; we doubt if our children's children will be allowed to forget it; and we hope that the eager desire to show our appreciation will find practical expression.

In Hongkong we are not very far away from French Indo-China, and both the British and the French are interested in the economic development of the Southern Provinces of China. One of the first acts of the new Governor of Indo-China was to establish an Agency in Paris to assist in the better exploitation of the resources of that Colony. France requires the raw material which the Colony can supply, and Indo-China needs money for development. Though we do not know what special trading facilities the British may obtain in Indo-China, we hope that the principle expressed in the new arrangement between France and Great Britain will be extended to the Colonies of both countries.

It is the irony of fate that the main purpose of the Germans in making war was to capture markets, and that their adventure threatens to result in excluding them from those to which they have always had free access. Like the greedy dog of the fable, they have lost the substance for the shadow. If they had been honourable foes, if, as we say in our homely phrase, they had "played the game," there would be no reason to despair of a speedy reconciliation with the Allies. At it is, the idea is abhorrent. It is, of course, possible that the entry of America into the League against Germany may modify the original agreement of the Paris Economic Conference. The President of the United States has hinted that he hopes to spare the German people and is chiefly concerned in destroying the power of the Hohenzollerns. It has been truly said, however, that a nation has the Government it deserves. We have witnessed a great, if gradual, change in public opinion in America during the last three years, and we venture to think that when the American troops see France and Belgium, and hear the stories of German atrocities from the lips of those who witnessed them, they will feel that justice demands that the authors of all this misery must expiate their crimes.

There was no business of public interest at the meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board yesterday.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong St. Andrew's Society is advertised to take place on the 26th inst.

Commander W. Cadman, who was killed on the sinking of the *Vanguard* on July 9th, saw service as a Sub-Lieutenant on the *Redpole* on the China Station during the outbreak of 1900.

Colonel M. C. Cooke-Collis, late Indian Army, who died recently in London at the age of sixty-six, served in the China Expedition of 1900, when he was mentioned in despatches.

The O. S. K. vessel *Amakusa Maru*, which went ashore at Amoy during the typhoon last week, has been refloated. She is due in Hongkong on the 20th, calling at Swatow en route.

Commander R. L. Jermain, who has been appointed to H.M.S. *Minotaur*, served in the China Expedition of 1900 as a Midshipman on the *Centurion*, when he was mentioned in despatches.

Mrs. S. E. Green, who has been absent from the Colony, will be returning shortly, and will be glad to receive any communications, etc., from the workers of "Our Little Bit Society" after Saturday next.

The police have received a report to the effect that an Indian constable at Lamna Island has caught a snake measuring ten feet. The constable found the reptile in the act of devouring a young goat, and promptly killed it.

The rat return for the fortnight ending September 8th, shows that during the week ending September 1st, 1940 rats were killed, none of which was found to be infected. During the week ending September 8th, the rats caught totalled 1,984, and here again none were found to be infected.

Commander R. P. McHardy, whose death occurred recently at Plymouth, was serving as gunnery officer of the *Pearless* at the outbreak of war and was in the actions of the Bight and at Jutland. He served on the China Station in the *Amphitrite*, and afterwards in the *Ocean*, returning home in 1903.

Kowloon Cricket Club annual meeting will be held on the 26th inst.

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An open-air concert is to be given in the grounds of the Helena May Institute on the evening of the 26th inst. A good programme is promised, including popular local items and selections by the Police Reserve Band. Tickets 50 cents (refreshments free) may be obtained from the Matron, Helena May Institute.

A Chinese has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from the effects of immersion. The man was a passenger on the launch *Hung On*, from Nam Tau. He jumped overboard, and a member of the crew bravely dived into the water and sustained him until they both were rescued by the other members of the crew.

After eight years' service with the Kwangtung Electric Supply Company of Canton, Mr. Ernest E. Garrard has resigned his position in order to proceed to the front "to do his bit." Mr. Garrard has been acting chief engineer for the Company for the past two years, in the place of the late Capt. G. S. Thorne, R. F. C.

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG

AWARD OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND CASH PRIZES.

The Senate of Hongkong University has approved of the following awards on the results of the Matriculation Examination held in July, 1917:—

KING EDWARD VII. SCHOLARSHIPS.—Lim Keng Sim and Cheah Keng Seng, both of Penang Free School.

PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP.—Tsai Pao He, Westminster College, Amoy.

CANTON GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS.—Wong Kwok In and Shin Lok Sang, of Queen's College, Hongkong; Tsui Teng Ming, of St. Stephen's College, Hongkong.

CASH PRIZES OF \$100 EACH.—Lim Keng Sim, Cheah Keng Seng and Foo Keat Kheng, of Penang Free School; Liu Wa Po, Diocesan School, Hongkong; and Phoon Seck Foo, Raffles Institution, Singapore. These candidates were placed, respectively, 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th in order of merit on the Matriculation list. The third place was obtained by the late Mr. Cheah Teik Hong, of the Penang Free Schools.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

A correspondent writes:—"In your columns last week it was suggested that the names should be published of all the men in the Colony who had been conscripted. May I be allowed, as a conscript, to add the further suggestion that the reasons given by the conscripts for not joining before should also be given? Of course there may be some who have simply been shirking their responsibilities, but there are certainly others who had good and valid reasons for not joining up earlier, and it would be only fair, assuming that they are to be pilloried, that these reasons should also be made known; otherwise some very unjust impressions may prevail. All are not 'slackers' or 'shirkers' who do not don khaki. The man who stayed at Home had a moral in it which should be remembered by those who are so ready to jump at disparaging conclusions."

My correspondent's demand is a perfectly just one. I very much doubt, however, whether those who have become members of the local Defence Corps by compulsion will be pilloried. If they are it will serve no useful purpose—for there is no question now of punishing men to a recognition of their responsibilities, but, on the contrary, will create a lot of bad blood. An aggressive spirit of self-righteousness is not one to be encouraged at the expense of others. Some of those already serving, be it remembered, required a good deal of persuasion before they enrolled. I know of one man who has often been the object of jibes because he has not donned a uniform, since he arrived in the Colony, yet he was amongst the first in England to volunteer for active service at the outbreak of war. In the rush he was accepted, but after a few weeks' training collapsed and was discharged. I do not know what the physical standard will be for the Hongkong Defence Corps—probably not very high in view of the fact that men up to fifty-five years of age are eligible—but however wide the net may be thrown a friend of mine says he is willing to give to War Charities a dollar for every man obtained in excess of the number twenty-five.

I am glad to see that the idea of enlisting the support of the London Press on behalf of the movement for securing a just rate of pay for Service men stationed in this Colony occurred to the local branch of the Navy League. It is not, however, quite as easy to do as it looks. Editors of leading London papers are almost as inaccessible as Mahatmas, and a letter for insertion in the correspondence columns is not sufficiently arresting. The best plan would be to dispatch a telegram to one paper only, setting forth the grievance clearly and succinctly, but even in that case no attention would be paid to the message unless it bore evidence of coming from a trustworthy source. In due course the *Daily Press* will get Home, providing the mails are not sent to the bottom by submarine, and will find its way into the right hands. Failing everything else, a wag has suggested that every adult British resident in the Colony should send a letter on the subject to the Editor of *The Daily Mail*. An avalanche of such letters would be convincing proof of the feeling entertained locally, and *The Daily Mail* could be safely depended upon to galvanise the pundits of Pall Mall into activity.

"You have often written about the unnecessary suffering which the Chinese inflict upon live fowls and the like owing to the manner in which they carry them," writes a correspondent, "and therefore you may be interested to learn that the other day I was walking along Queen's Road East when I saw a 'boy' approaching with a fowl and a duck. The birds were being carried by their wings, both were uttering cries of pain, and it was obvious that they were in great suffering. I went up to a *lukong* and pointed to the incident. He nodded his head, looked silly, and walked away. I then approached an Indian constable, who smiled, muttered something unintelligible, and also walked away. As I could get no assistance from the 'guardians of law and order' I went up to the 'boy,' took the birds out of his hands, and showed him the proper way to carry them under his arm. I trust that the C.S.P. will take note of the callous indifference of two members of his force."

Things one would like to know:—What impressions Col. John Ward, M.P., has formed of Hongkong? If a well-known local amateur thespian is busy on a war-play with a moral "kick" in it? Whether anything is going to be done to suppress slavery in Hongkong? Why *Oak Bay* was not running at the Gymkhana meeting on Saturday, and the Middlesex colours were not seen on a pony? What is going to happen on "Our Day" in Hongkong? Time is running on, and Singapore has already avenged a programme.

Why a certain Company of the Reserves is being photographed this week? Has this anything to do with the impending change of uniform? Why the statue of the late Queen Victoria has been singled out for preferential treatment now that we have a plentiful water supply?

Why the Government do not arrange for a Chinese reservation on the higher levels, and thus obviate the persistent attempts of wealthy Chinese to acquire property in the existing Peak district? The name of the "Magistrate" who was told by a certain solicitor that he was not a Magistrate, and that the "Court" he was sitting in was not a Court—and whether this explains certain antedated *Gazette* notices regarding Courts and Magistrates?

ROBERT RAYSON.

THE WAR.

INCREASED ARTILLERY DUEL IN FLANDERS.

NAVAL AIRCRAFT SCORE SUCCESSES.

AFFAIRS IN NEWEST REPUBLIC.

PREMIER DEMANDS CESSATION OF EXCESSES.

H.M. THE KING TOURS WAR WORK CENTRES

Franco-Belgian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

BRITISH FRONT.

SUCCESSFUL RAID.

London, September 17th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a report, states:—We successfully raided east of Epheby, in the neighbourhood of the Arras-Douai Railway.

South-east of Gavrelle, we destroyed dug-outs, emplacements and dumps.

Hostile artillery is active to the east of Ypres.

ENEMY RAID REPULSED.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The enemy's attempt to raid to the south of Lombartzyde was repulsed.

Our artillery was active in the Ypres sector, while the enemy's was less marked, except to the south of Lens and in the neighbourhood of Nieupoort.

The enemy's aeroplanes dropped fifty bombs behind our lines yesterday morning, but the damage was slight. Ours dropped 143 bombs on an aerodrome and billets and fired thousands of machine-gun rounds at various targets, scattering 2,000 infantry, from a height of a hundred feet.

We brought down seven and drove down four enemy machines, while eight of ours are missing.

GERMAN REPORT.

A German official wireless message states:—The artillery duel in Flanders has been most violent. Drumfire is also intense in the Aisne, Champagne and Verdun regions. The enemy lost eighteen aeroplanes yesterday.

FRENCH FRONT.

ENEMY ATTACK FAILS.

Paris, September 17th. A communiqué states:—After a violent bombardment, the Germans attacked our positions in the Apremont forest. Fractions which gained a footing in our advanced elements were driven out and the line re-established.

FRENCH AERIAL ATTACKS.

A communiqué states:—There is very considerable artillery firing on both banks of the Meuse, especially north of Hill 344 and at Caurières Wood.

Aviators dropped fifteen tons of bombs on barracks and munition factories at Stuttgart and Ukingen, on an aerodrome at Colmar, store-building at Logelbach, military establishments south of Metz, and railway stations at Thionville and Sarrebourg.

GERMANY'S INFANTRY STRENGTH.

London, September 18th. A correspondent of the *Temps* at the British Front, writing regarding the enemy shortage of effectives, declares on incontestable proof that the strength of a German Company of infantry in certain sectors varies from forty to sixty men. The shortage is compensated for by additional machine guns.

BESIEGED LENS.

GERMANS WOULD CRUCIFY INVENTOR OF GAS.

London, September 17th. Lens is literally drenched in Canadian gas, according to Mr. Percival Phillips, the war correspondent. The garrison is forced to live in darkness and torment. The men dare not remove their gas masks for a moment. Fifty tons of gas shells were thrown into one sector in one night, filling the dug-outs and galleries with clouds of poisonous fumes. The prisoners are all suffering badly.

An officer who was captured described the feelings of the garrison, saying:—“We wish we had the swine who invented gas. We would crucify him.”

The Canadians are grimly satisfied, as they were the first victims of gas at Ypres.

Italian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

ITALIAN FRONT.

FOUR ENEMY COUNTER-ATTACKS REPULSED.

London, September 17th.

An Italian official message says:—We repulsed four counter-attacks on the Bainsizza Plateau.

Aerial Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

SPLendid NAVAL AIRCRAFT ATTACKS.

London, September 17th.

The Admiralty announces that Naval aircraft, on Saturday, bombed enemy shipping between Ostend and Blankenbergh.

A large destroyer was hit amidships, while one, probably two, trawlers were sunk. Our aeroplanes shot down a sea-plane in the evening.

A patrol engaged an enemy formation of aircraft yesterday morning, destroying one, probably two.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

GERMAN FOOD CONDITIONS.

Zurich, September 18th.

The German Food Department announces that no barley will be distributed this winter for feeding pigs, as the bad outcrops will barely suffice to feed the army horses. Barley must be used for human food.

The Department proposes the slaughter of all pigs over thirty pounds, leaving only a few breeders.

SPAIN TO INCREASE ARTILLERY.

Madrid, September 18th.

The Cabinet has decided upon a big increase in artillery and the establishment of an organisation for industrial mobilisation.

THE SWEDISH INTRIGUE.

“A SERIOUS TREASONABLE OFFENCE.”

Buenos Aires, September 18th.

A semi-official statement declares that, in addition to using the Swedish Legation for the transmission of messages, Count Luxburg tried to induce an Argentine official to “commit a serious treasonable offence,” the nature of which cannot yet be revealed.

It is expected that Count Luxburg will leave on the 28th inst.

EARLIER CABLES.

POLITICAL PARTIES PROTEST AGAINST GOVERNMENT'S CONDUCT.

Stockholm, September 17th.

There have been great meetings of Socialists and Liberals, presided over by M. Branting and Professor Eden, the Liberal leader, respectively. Resolutions have been passed strongly protesting against the Conservative Government's conduct in the Luxburg affair and emphasising the determination of the Swedish people to maintain strict neutrality. The Socialists have demanded a change of Government.

LATEST CABLES.

THE RUSSIAN REPUBLIC.

KORNILOFF UNDER GUARD.

Petrograd, September 18th. General Korniloff and 23 Generals and officers are under close guard at Mohilov, where the garrison demanded to be sent to the Front.

THE PREMIER REBUKES OFFENDERS.

Petrograd, September 18th.

M. Kerensky, in a message to the Baltic Fleet, emphatically demands an immediate cessation of acts of violence and excesses which the crews are committing, and scathingly rebukes the offenders.

EARLIER CABLES.

GENERAL SUKHOMLINOFF'S TRIAL.

Petrograd, September 17th.

Three hundred soldiers went to the Army and Navy Club, where General Sukhomlinoff is being tried, and demanded that he and his wife should be delivered to them, as the trial was taking too long and they wanted to deal summarily with him. The demand was refused, and the soldiers stated that they would return in three days when, if the trial was not finished, they would finish it. Meanwhile they demanded that General Sukhomlinoff should be placed on common prisoners' fare, and this was granted.

LATEST CABLES.

Petrograd, September 18th.

The accused General's banker gave evidence. He said that accused's current account was £20,000. An additional £20,000 was deposited during 1914.

EARLIER CABLES.

GENERAL KALEDINE RESIGNS.

Petrograd, September 17th.

General Kaledine has telegraphed to the Government denying that he is organising a rising, and placing his services at the disposal of the Government.

LATER.

It is semi-officially announced that General Kaledine has resigned his position as Hetman of the Don Cossacks.

SERIOUS STRIKE IN ARGENTINA.

London, September 17th.

While Argentina is awaiting Germany's explanation of the Luxburg affair the Government is faced with a serious strike of railwaymen, who have held up troop trains, seized the telegraphs, and blown up a bridge, interrupting the services. The strikers refuse arbitration. The Government has decided energetically to repress sabotage. The cause of the strike is not stated.

HIS MAJESTY VISITS THE CLYDE.

INSPECTS NEW SHIPBUILDING DEVICES.

London, September 17th.

His Majesty the King has begun a tour of the great industrial districts of the Clyde.

After chatting to a hundred war workers at Greenock Town Hall, His Majesty proceeded to a dockyard and watched a new time-saving system of working ship's plates without templates being lifted off the vessel, Scotch lassies acting as “holders on” to the riveters. He was also greatly interested in a machine for punching angles, the first of its kind used in a British shipyard.

His Majesty spoke to and shook hands with numerous workers, including a blacksmith aged seventy-nine, who said he had retired but could not remain idle while there was war work to do.

His Majesty asked an Australian about his home and family.

REPAIRING QUEBEC'S BROKEN BRIDGE.

Quebec, September 17th.

The five thousand-ton span of the Quebec Bridge has been safely towed into position. The operation of hoisting, lasting thirty hours, is proceeding satisfactorily and is being witnessed by twenty-five thousand people.

SCATHING INDICTMENT OF GERMANY.

“AUTOCRACY DECEIVING A GREAT PEOPLE.”

London, September 17th.

Mr. Gerard, in his final chapter of revelations in the *Daily Telegraph*, makes a scathing indictment of Germany. He says that when he returned to America after living in the centre of the world calamity he felt for the first time the utter horror and uselessness of all the misery the Prussian military autocracy had brought upon the world and what a reckoning there would be for Germany some day when plain people realise the truth, and when they learn what base motives actuated their rulers in condemning a whole generation to war and death.

M. Gerard asks: “Is it not a shame that the world should have been so disturbed that peaceful men were compelled to lie in mud and fifth in the depth of a raw winter? Why must the people of Poland die of hunger, not finding dogs enough in the streets of Lemberg, and prisoners of war starve in huts or be working in factories and mines? Why should the honour of ten million dead be inflicted on the world because in the dark, cold northern plains of Germany there exists an autocracy deceiving a great people and poisoning their minds from one generation to another and preaching the virtue and necessity of war?”

“Until that autocracy is either wiped out or made powerless, there can be no peace on earth. The golden dream of conquest was almost accomplished. A little more advance, a few more wagon-loads of ammunition and there would have been no battle of the Marne, no Joffre to hammer back the invading hordes of barbarism.”

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

EXPORT RESTRICTIONS.

New York, September 17th.

In order to conserve supplies the Export Board has issued an order practically prohibiting the export of wheat, flour, sugar, butter, cotton lint, iron and steel and many chemicals unless for actual war service.

SALES OF OXEN TO GERMANY.

FRENCH DEPUTY SUSPECTED OF ENEMY TRADING.

Paris, September 18th.

The President of the Chamber has instituted an inquiry regarding the actions of the Deputy, M. Turmel, who is suspected of dealing with the enemy. He has requested M. Turmel to explain his possession of one thousand pounds in Swiss bank notes.

Investigations have revealed recent sales of thousands of oxen destined for Germany.

Further proceedings will be instituted.

LATEST CABLES.

THE SILVER MARKET.

Silver is quoted 52d., and the market is firm.

EARLIER CABLES.

OBITUARY.

LORD HENRY MANNERS

London, September 17th.

Lord Robert Manners has been killed in France.

[Major Lord Robert Manners, D.S.O., was the fourth son of the 7th Duke of Rutland. He was 47 years of age.]

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE “CHUNG NGOI SAN PO.”]

CHINA AND THE “ENTENTE.”

Shanghai, September 18th.

The Government is discussing the *Entente* Ministers' proposals for

(1) The disposal of German and Austrian property.
(2) Control of German and Austrian subjects.
(3) Transfer of enemy ships to the *Entente*.

TRAINING OF BROKEN SOLDIERS.

BRITISH AND FRENCH METHODS.

PENSIONS COMPARED.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir A. Griffith Boscawen's report to the Ministry of Pensions, on the Inter-Allied Conference at Paris for the Study of Professional Re-education and other questions of interest to soldiers and sailors disabled by the war was issued last month.

The conference was organized by a Franco-Belgian Committee under the presidency of Baron de Brocqueville, the Belgian Minister of War, whose place at the conference was taken by the Belgian Minister of the Interior. The discussions and frank interchanges of opinions between men and women of the several nations were very valuable, and, in addition, the delegates were able to visit several hospitals and training establishments in and around Paris.

DELEGATES' CONCLUSIONS.

Summarising the conclusions arrived at in the delegates' reports, Sir Arthur Griffith Boscawen says he was struck very much with the great interest which the subject evoked. Representatives of France, Belgium, Russia, Portugal, Russia, Portugal, Italy, and Serbia took part in the discussions. Referring to treatment, he says, speaking as a layman, that so far as our hospital services and methods are concerned, he came to the conclusion that we had not much to learn. In one important respect the practice in France and among Belgians differs from our own. No man is discharged from the Army until his cure is complete, so far as this is possible. This question, Sir Arthur adds, has been discussed frequently with the War Office, who have stated that they are unable to retain disabled men for a longer time than they do at present. He points out that the French and Belgian military authorities accept a large responsibility for the disabled and profess at all events to retain them until they require no further treatment either as in-patients or out-patients. The only cases where treatment after discharge is said to take place are those in which a man's condition gets worse after he leaves the Army.

The greatest interest is taken in the question of training by all the Allies, and not only are workshops attached to all the French and Belgian hospitals, but there are also large establishments specially set up for re-education. One of the finest examples of these is the “Institut Militaire Belge des Mutilés, Invalides et Orphelins,” at Port-Villez, which has been built on a magnificent site overlooking the Seine half-way between Paris and Rouen, and accommodates about 1,300 disabled men. Here are the most complete installations of electrical and other appliances for orthopedic treatment and 30 separate workshops where almost every conceivable trade is taught. Training is compulsory, as it is in all French, Belgian, and Italian hospitals, the doctor having the principal voice in deciding what trade the man is to learn, and being guided naturally by considerations of the curative quality of various forms of manual training in each case. The man himself appears to have little voice in deciding his future, while a battle royal between the doctor and the technical expert often rages over his mutilated body.

In France, Belgium and Italy the practice differs from our own in the fact that the training in the supervision of the doctor, whereas it is not compulsory in Great Britain, even in orthopedic and limbless hospitals, which have workshops attached. Those who have experience of these hospitals state that better results are obtained by allowing the training to be voluntary and by appealing to the good sense of the men. Compulsory training ceases in France and Italy as soon as the man is discharged from the Army.

Dealing with employment, Sir Arthur Griffith Boscawen says that the French have many of the same difficulties as we have, but do not possess our admirable organization of local committees. Attention is called to the possibility of insurance companies charging higher rates for workmen's compensation insurance for disabled soldiers as being more likely to meet with accidents than fit men. By a recent French law an employer does not pay a higher rate for a disabled man, the State paying the difference out of a fund created by a special tax on all employers. This, Sir Arthur says, appears to be an admirable arrangement, facilitating the employment of wounded soldiers, and is worthy of consideration here.

FRENCH AND BRITISH PENSIONS COMPARED.

With regard to Government action and responsibility generally, the report states that the institution of the single Ministry of Pensions appealed to the Allied delegates as a most excellent plan, the importance of which they had not realized before. With regard to the scale of pensions, we are far ahead of any of our Allies, especially since the issue of the new warrant. A Class I. pension in France, which corresponds to our highest degree, amounts to only 18.75% a week (a little over 15s.) for a private, as compared with 27s. 6d. in Great Britain. Again, in France pensions are not paid weekly, but quarterly in arrears, which leads to much hardship at the commencing period. The French, it is added, contemplate an early revision of their pension scale.

The report states:—“There is one important feature in it which the French and Belgian delegates in the Sixth Section entirely disapproved of, and, indeed, failed to understand, and that is the alternative pension. They took their stand on the principle of absolute *Entente*.”

(Continued at foot of next column.)

NAVAL OFFICER'S APPEAL AGAINST RETIREMENT.

TREATED AS A LUNATIC.

Because he had been treated as a lunatic Mr. Harry Macleod Fraser, a retired naval officer, appeared last month in person to appeal in the Court of Appeal before the Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Scrutton from a decision of Mr. Justice Atkin in Chambers striking out a portion of his claim delivered in an action which he had commenced against Admiral Sir Frederick Hamilton.

Appellant stated that in October, 1915, he was in command of H.M.S. *Don* in the North Sea, where he had been since the beginning of the war, in charge of a division of destroyers. In that month he was removed from his ship and incarcerated in Chatham hospital, placed under observation for insanity, and treated for 14 days as a lunatic. This, he learned, was on account of a paper which he had written before the war, and which he had submitted to the Board of Inventions and Research. In it, he attempted “to examine (somewhat amateurishly) mental operation, particularly with a view to seeing whether the faculty of invention could be developed by education and training.”

He attempted to get an inquiry into his treatment, but eventually the Surgeon-General of the hospital reported him unfit for service owing to “mental instability.” Upon this, Sir Frederick Hamilton, who was Second Sea Lord at the time, caused him to be retired, and the fact to be published in the *Guardian*. Subsequently, appellant said, he offered him a post on “some old hulk” at Portsmouth, cancelling his retirement. He refused to take up the appointment, thus rendering himself liable to court-martial and to be shot, and he was then retired again. In these circumstances, he was bringing an action for wrongful imprisonment and wrongful and malicious retirement.

Mr. Justice Atkin had struck out of his pleading the clause in which he said that defendant wrongfully and maliciously caused him to be retired from the Navy, and to be placed on retired pay, and also caused the retirement to be published in the *London Gazette* and other newspapers. Mr. Atkin struck it out on the ground that it was unnecessary and likely to embarrass a fair trial of the action. Appellant cited cases in support of his application.

The Master of the Rolls, in dismissing the appeal, said that a naval officer was subject to the jurisdiction of his superior officers. The Admiralty regulations made it quite clear that there was a domestic tribunal to deal with any grievances which might arise in the service, and it was contrary to all precedent that there should be an appeal at the same time to the High Court. Although the allegation was made that this thing was done wrongfully and maliciously, it being a naval matter the Court had no jurisdiction to interfere.

LUCKY THIRTEEN.

SOLDIER'S REMARKABLE RECOVERY OF SPEECH.

From St. Joseph's Convalescent Home, Bournemouth, a remarkable case of a Warwickshire soldier's recovery of speech is reported. During a game of cards things had reached such a high pitch of excitement that it was decided to select Private H. Batchelor, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, to tap the table after 13 had been counted. This man, who had lost his speech, surprised the company around by exclaiming, “Whoa!” After two minutes of a choking sobbing, and a walk through the woods, he talked normally, when he received the congratulations of his friends. Private Batchelor lost his speech through shell shock in July, 1916, and recovered it in a Liverpool hospital in the presence of his wife and some friends the following September; but lost it again through a flash of lightning in April. He was a former member of the Coventry Rugby Football Club, and is now able to talk as usual. The number 13 played a prominent part in this case. Private Batchelor was told to tap the table when 13 cards had been selected; the Home number is 13; the number of the bed he sleeps in is 13; and there was a company of 13 present when he recovered his speech.

equality, and argued that for the same hurt there should always be the same money compensation, irrespective of a man's circumstances. The argument that a totally disabled man who could earn nothing after the war, but who before the war was earning £3 a week, and made a greater sacrifice than a similarly disabled man who before the war was earning only £1 a week did not appeal to them in the least. “Both have lost an arm and a leg,” they said, “both have been blinded, or both are totally paralyzed, therefore they should have the same pensions. They thought that, as war was so usual, generous but illogical, and I do not think that they will ever appreciate our standpoint any more than we shall subscribe to their doctrine of abstract *égalité*. The conference, however, agreed to give the question further consideration in special cases.”

The conference recommended the creation of a permanent Inter-Allied Committee, and it was suggested that another conference should be held in London. In the meantime it is proposed to establish an Inter-Allied Bureau of Information on all questions relating to pensions, treatment, training, and employment of men disabled in the war, and until this is done information is being forwarded to the French Statistical Office, which undertook to codify it and publish it for the general benefit to the Government concerned.

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WEATHER REPORT.

September 18th, at 11.55.—No returns from Japanese stations. Pressure has decreased slightly over N. China and increased slightly to moderately elsewhere. It is highest over the Yangtze Valley and the S. China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since 1st January, 73.10 inches, against an average of 70.08 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

DISTRICT	FORECAST.
Hongkong to Gap Rock	E. and S.E. winds, moderate; fine generally.
Formosa Channel	South winds, moderate.
South Coast of China between the same as Hongkong and Lamooda	No. 1.
South Coast of China between the same as Hongkong and Hainan	No. 1.

HONGKONG'S STORM SIGNALS

A NEW CODE.

New local and non-local storm signals codes will be introduced at Hongkong on July 1st, in place of the old Local Code and the China Coast Code.

The principal change in the Local Code is that the new signals will show the direction from which the gale is expected, whereas the old signals showed the position of the typhoon. The latter will be indicated, as heretofore, by the non-local signals. The new Local Code is given below:

DAY SIGNALS.

- Signal, Symbol. Meaning.
- 1.—Red cone.—A typhoon exists which may possibly cause a gale at Hongkong within 24 hours.
 - 2.—Black cone.—Gale expected from the North (N.W. to N.E.).
 - 3.—Black cone inverted.—Gale expected from the South (S.E. to S.W.).
 - 4.—Black drum.—Gale expected from the East (N.E. to S.E.).
 - 5.—Black ball.—Gale expected from the West (N.W. to S.W.).
 - 6.—Double cone.—Gale expected to increase.
 - 7.—Black cross.—Wind of typhoon force expected (any direction).

Signal No. 7 will be accompanied by three explosive bombs, fired at intervals of 10 seconds at the Water Police Station and repeated at the Harbour Office.

The signals will be lowered when it is considered that all danger is over.

The Day Signals will be displayed at the masthead of the storm signal mast on Blackhead Hill, the Harbour Office, H.M.S. Tamar, Green Island signal mast, the flagstaff on the premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company at Kowloon, the flagstaff on the premises of the Standard Oil Company at Leichikok, and the flagstaff near the Field Officer's Quarters at Lyemun.

- NIGHT SIGNALS. (Lamps)
- 1.—White-white-white.
 - 2.—White-green-green.
 - 3.—Green-white-white.
 - 4.—Green-green-white.
 - 5.—White-white-green.
 - 6.—Green-green-green.
 - 7.—Red-green-red.

The Night Signals will be displayed, at sunset, on the tower of the Railway Station, on H.M.S. Tamar, and on the Harbour Office flagstaff. They will have the same significance as the day signals.

Signal No. 7 will be accompanied by explosive bombs as above, in the event of the information conveyed by this signal being first published at night.

SUPPLEMENTARY WARNING.

When local signals are displayed in the Harbour a Cone will be exhibited at the following stations:—Gap Rock, Waglan, Stanley, Aberdeen, San Ki Wan, Sai King, Sha Tau Kok and Tai Po, to notify the fact to native craft and passing ocean vessels.

Further details can always be given to ocean vessels, on demand, by signal from lighthouses.

The object of the code is to give at least 24 hours' warning of a gale (Force 6 by Beaufort Scale, or 40-45 m.p.h., mean velocity by Dines Anemometer) and also warnings of expected changes in the direction and force of the wind. Owing, however, to the uncertain movements of typhoons and to insufficient telegraphic observations, it will occasionally happen that signals 1 to 6 may be displayed without a gale occurring at Hongkong, or even Gap Rock, but the reverse is not likely to happen, except in the case of typhoons forming in the vicinity and travelling rapidly towards Hongkong, or of a localized typhoon increasing its rate of progression abnormally.

Signal No. 1 is intended as a warning to "Stand By" and watch for the next signal.

In the new non-Local Code the approximate velocity of the storm centre will be shown, in addition to its direction of motion, and the position of the centre will be given in degrees of latitude and longitude. The time at which the warning was issued will also be shown.

EMPIRE SETTLEMENT.

PROSPECTS OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

TENNYSON COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Committee appointed on February 15th, 1917, by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to inquire into the desirability of being taken for settlement within the Empire ex-soldiers who may desire to emigrate after the war have now issued their report (Cd. 8572). Lord Tennyson was chairman of the Committee, which comprised also representatives of the Dominions, of the Board of Agriculture, of the Ministry of Labour, of the Colonial Office, of the War Office, and of the British South Africa Company.

The report is unanimous, and there is attached to it a memorandum by Mr. Lyttelton Gell, of the British South Africa Company, on the Finance of Empire Land Settlement. Another appendix contains the replies of various members of the Committee to certain questions drawn up by the chairman. These questions were designed to elicit information about the facilities available in various parts of the Dominions for land settlement, not only for ordinary settlers, but especially for ex-service men.

The Committee have "gone" thoroughly into the whole question of land settlement within the Empire for ex-soldiers. They do not consider that it is correct to regard opportunities offering to ex-service men for settlement on the land at home and in the Oversea Dominions as in any way antagonistic. They are really parts of the one great policy for settlement within the Empire, not two different and opposing schemes.

A CENTRAL AUTHORITY.

The most important recommendation of the Committee is for the constitution of a Central Authority "to supervise and assist the emigration of ex-service men." The same recommendation was made by the Dominions Royal Commission, but the Committee go further than the Commission. The Commission recommended that a Central Authority should be set up which would be a department, or sub-department of the Imperial Government, and that a consultative board should be appointed, on which the Oversea Dominions and the Imperial Government should be represented, and secure the necessary co-operation between the Home and Oversea Governments with regard to matters of migration. The Committee, while "agreeing entirely as to the necessity for such co-operation," recommend that "representatives of the Oversea Dominions and others should be connected with the new authority, not in an advisory, but in an executive capacity."

The Committee suggest that the actual executive duties should be entrusted to a Board. The Board should be presided over by a chairman, appointed by the Imperial Government, who should devote his whole time to the subject. It should consist of five representatives of the Imperial Government—one each to be nominated by the Colonial Office, the War Office, the Board of Trade, the Local Government Board, the Ministry of Labour; of four representatives nominated respectively by Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa; of one of the Agents-General for the Australian States; of one of the Agents-General for the Canadian Provinces; and of five unofficial members, of whom two should be women.

They are convinced that this Central Authority should be created immediately. So far as the general control of emigration from the United Kingdom is concerned, it is obvious that the present is an unequalled opportunity for effecting a change. Emigration is at a standstill. Such vested interests as previously existed have practically vanished. Now is the time to take action in the way of carrying out a much needed reform of methods.

This reform should be effected by systematic unification of the existing emigration machinery in the United Kingdom. The Committee endorse without reserve the recommendation of the Dominions Royal Commission in this respect. The new Central Authority should absorb the present Emigrants' Information Office, and should control the licensing of emigration societies, of passage-brokers, agents; and also the general dissemination of information to the Oversea Dominions. It should, too, report annually upon questions connected with Imperial migration, and should undertake special duties in connection with the emigration of Poor Law children and of children from industrial and reformatory schools.

IMMEDIATE PREPARATIONS.

The immediate creation of a Central Authority is equally necessary, in the opinion of the Committee, to prepare for the emigration of ex-service men. "It is obvious that unless the machinery for distributing information is ready before the war is over, and made capable of adaptation to the pace of demobilisation, the Governments concerned will be open to the charge of having neglected an important side of reconstruction work, and there will be grave danger of men drifting away outside the Empire."

The authority should be ready to deal at once with essential matters. Thus, it must be in a position to supply trustworthy information to ex-service men; to record the names and careers of those who desire to emigrate; and to transfer their cases, after preliminaries have been completed, to the office of the Dominion or State of their choice."

The Committee report that they consulted the War Office and the Ministry of Labour as to the best time for spreading information among the troops about openings offered to ex-service men overseas. Both expressed the opinion that the proper period for disseminating information will be that between the time of cessation of hostilities and the time when men are granted furlough previous to being discharged. They submit a very interesting sketch of the kind of information which should be distributed to the kind of information which should be distributed to the troops and of the method that should be adopted in distributing it.

They note the difficulty which is likely to be experienced in finding shipping for a considerable time after peace is made to (Continued at foot of next column.)

THE SINKING OF THE

"BLUCHER."

ADMIRAL HALSEY'S ACCOUNT OF THE DOGGER BANK.

Rear-Admiral Lionel Halsey, speaking recently at a meeting of the Hertfordshire Navy League, held at Arlington-street, referred to the submarine menace, and said that it was impossible to "down" every submarine, but even now the enemy's submarines could not show their periscopes for so many hours as formerly. He was certain that with the exercise of faith, patience, and dogged perseverance, we should neutralize the action which nobody dreamed three years ago any civilized State could stoop to.

Admiral Halsey described how the British battle-cruisers dashed through the fog to take part in the Dogger Bank fight. He had gone ashore for a little game of golf, he said, and in the afternoon a midshipman came rushing to me with orders to get up steam. We went back to the ship, and in a short time we were under way. There was a thick fog and we went at full speed through it for some hours. I need hardly say how glad we were to run out of it.

At 7 o'clock the next morning we sighted the British flotilla of destroyers, which had left its base to the south of us and was making full speed towards the spot where we expected to meet the enemy. Suddenly the flotilla opened fire. The signal went up for "full speed," and away we went. The m.n. down below stoked away like the heroes they are.

At 8.15 we sighted the German ships about 34,000 yards away, going for all they were worth—unfortunately in the same direction as we were. We managed to pick them up bit by bit, and at 8.15 we had our orders to open fire at a range of something like 21,000 yards. We cocked our guns up and let fly. The shooting was good, but the trouble was that when we had begun to get the range we only had between 30 or 40 miles which we could go. The *Blucher*, fell back and the guns caught her nicely, and a very short time she was knocked out of the fight and sunk.

Those at home, Admiral Halsey continued, might not get to know much about the achievements of the Navy, but the Navy and the mercantile marine had performed the finest deeds known to history.

transport any large number of ex-service men who may desire to emigrate, and they give a warning against the possibility of foreign shipping being available to take such men to other countries. "It seems to us," they say, "most advisable to discourage general emigration to foreign countries while facilities are wanting for migration within the Empire." They press on to consider the question of finance. "We should be glad, indeed, to see the principle accepted that a soldier or sailor who has served in the present war might, within a reasonable time claim free transport to any part of the Empire where he wishes to settle." They recognize that this principle involves administrative and economic difficulties. But they "suggest that the Home Government should regard the emigration of ex-service men as one of many ways of benefiting them, and should not hesitate to meet the necessary expenditure if occasion should so require and if openings were available for such men in the Oversea Dominions."

FINANCE.

The Committee discuss, too, though with considerable caution, the question of expenditure of large sums of money by the Home Government, by way of advances of capital, or otherwise, for the settlement of ex-service men overseas. They give a rather tentative approval to the proposition that "any of the Oversea Governments which is prepared to draw up a specific scheme (a) for the development of its natural resources; and (b) concurrently for the employment and settlement of its own ex-service men and those from the United Kingdom and other parts of the Empire, but is hampered by lack of funds, might arrange for such a scheme to be prepared and submitted for the consideration of the Home Government," and they suggest that the Imperial Government might then allow their credit to be used to support loans for such purposes. But they say that "at the same time we do not disguise the fact that difficulties may be encountered in carrying out the above proposal."

They are strongly of opinion that, in the selection of ex-service men for settlement overseas, a preference should be given to married men. They come to the conclusion, on the whole, that "solely on account of the practical difficulties an ex-service man should not take his wife and family with him when he first emigrates, unless he has received from the representative of the Oversea Government concerned, who has approved him as an emigrant, encouragement before starting that arrangements can be made for their support until he is settled on his holding." They do not think it expedient, except in a limited number of cases, for the Imperial Government to establish in the United Kingdom special training farms for intending emigrants. They agree with the opinion of witnesses from the Dominions who have given evidence before them "that the training for a man who wishes to take up land should, as a rule, take place in the country where he is to live; and that it can be best obtained either by going to a training farm or working on another farm, according to circumstances. They set out in great detail the opportunities which are available at present in the various Oversea Dominions for the settlement of ex-service men, and they mention in a number of cases legislation which is in contemplation for extending those opportunities.

The Committee express, too, the opinion that "the question of the emigration of women is a most important one," and they "consider female emigration to be the essential foundation of all effective Empire settlement." They add that, in our view, there would be far greater justification for the grant of monetary assistance towards the emigration of the wives, families, and other relatives of ex-service men than there would be for such assistance towards the emigration of the men themselves."—Times.

Majority 1,294.

Mr. Smilie, on behalf of the minority, said they were very desirous, in view of the result of the vote, that the executive of the party should use every influence to get Belgium and America represented at Stockholm, and also that when a delegation of British labour was appointed two representatives should be nominated for each of the Colonies.

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